

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) W

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P 081700Z MAY 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0503

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1018

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, US, EGEN

SUBJECT: US-ALGERIAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

REF: JERUSALEM 3631; STATE 085347; ALGIERS 1017

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH
DEPSEC GEN PRESIDENCY HAMDANI AND CHIEF ALGIN BOUSSELHAM,
ECONOMIC OFFICER HAD SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON ALGERIAN
PROJECTS WITH BOUSSELHAM.

2. BOUSSELHAM EMPHASIZED ALGERIAN INTEREST IN TWO
AREAS - (A) EXPORTS OUTSIDE OF HYDROCARBONS
AND (B) IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. AMONG MAJOR
PROJECTS UNDER (A) HE MENTIONED STEEL, AUTOMOBILES,
HOME ELECTRONICS, AND ALUMINUM. THIS WILL BE SET OUT
IN THE 1974/77 4-YEAR PLAN WHICH HE THOUGHT WOULD BE
APPROVED SHORTLY.

3. ALGERIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY ABDESSELAM
AND MINISTER OF FINANCE MAHROUG PLAN TO COME TO US
TO EXPLAIN NEW 4-YEAR PLAN. BOUSSELHAM WAS ABOUT TO
MEET WITH ABDESSELAM AND SO WAS NOT SURE OF HIS PLANS,
BUT MAHROUG WOULD LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON ON JUNE 10 FOR
G-20 MEETING. HE HAS THEN SCHEDULED MEETING IN NEW
YORK WITH CHASE, FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK AND BANK OF
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AMERICA.

4 BOUSSELHAM WAS AWARE OF POSSIBLE VISIT OF EXIM
PRESIDENT WILLIAM CASEY TO ALGERIA. BOUSSELHAM FELT
TRIP SHOULD BE WELL PREPARED WITH ALGERIANS READY TO
CITE PRIORITY PROJECTS. HE MENTIONED SEPTEMBER AS A
POSSIBLE DATE. HOWEVER, USINT HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN
INFORMED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT INVITATION HAS BEEN
EXTENDED BY GOA FOR VISIT TO ALGIERS. TODAY WE
RECEIVED CALL FROM TOM MORAN OF EXIM THAT HE, MORAN,
WOULD BE ARRIVING MAY 14, AND CASEY AND HAMMOND OF
EXIM MAY 27, ALL FOR DAY AND A HALF VISITS. BOUSSELHAM
IS RETURNING WASHINGTON TODAY AND USINT SUGGESTS
CAREFUL PLANNING WITH BOUSSELHAM ON ECONOMIC
COORDINATION PROPOSAL WITH EXIM PRIOR VISIT. CASEY
VISIT COULD WELL BE AN IMPORTANT STEP IN CONNECTION WITH
PROPOSED ECONOMIC COOPERATION, REFTLE. EAGLETON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ALGIER01018
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740112-0102
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740566/aaaacgwd.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: JERUSALEM 3631; STATE 085347; ALGIER, S 1017
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ALGERIAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION DEPT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, AG, US, (BOUSSELHAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005